

MEDIA ALERT

March 27, 2006

National Search by Advisory Group to Seek Head of Committee of Consumer Services

Panel formed at the direction of Governor Jon M. Huntsman, Jr., made up of cross section...

(For immediate release)

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah – Francine Giani, Executive Director of the Utah Department of Commerce, announced today that at the request of Governor Jon M. Huntsman, Jr., an advisory panel and search committee has been put in place and tasked with undertaking a national effort to find a staff director for the Utah Committee of Consumer Services (CCS).

“We are anxious to move this process forward,” stated Mike Mower, Deputy Chief of Staff for Governor Jon Huntsman, Jr. “The Director of the Committee of Consumer Services has an important role and specific charge to advocate for Utah utility ratepayers.”

“With rising electric and natural gas rates being such a national issue affecting the pocketbooks of citizens in every state, it behooves us to expand our search for a qualified candidate,” said Giani. “We owe it to the Committee of Consumer Services and every Utahn to find someone who can hit the ground running.”

Established in 1977, the Committee is Utah’s utility consumer advocate, representing residential, small community and agricultural consumers of natural gas, electricity and telephone service mainly before the Utah Public Service Commission.

Giani will serve as the chairman of the CCS Search Committee and will be joined by Dr. Laura Nelson, the Governor’s Energy Advisor and a former CCS staff member; Claire Geddes, consumer advocate; DeeJay Hammon, present chairman of the CCS; Utah State Senator Karen Hale, (D), Salt Lake County; and Utah State Representative J. Stuart Adams, (R), Davis County.

As part of the nationwide search, the Search Committee will oversee the recruitment by placing a job announcement in utility industry professional journals, newsletters, and websites. Interested candidates should send their resumes to the Department of Commerce, 160 East 300 South, P.O. Box 846701, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114.

For more information please contact Mike Mower, 801-541-1981 or Francine Giani, 801-971-8130.